

air Play for One's Life:

OR, THE

Sovereign Preservative

OF THE

Royal Family, Nobility, &c.

AND, OF THE

ARTS of *Physick*, and *Surgery*, and the
Apothecaries TRADE.

By a Gentleman of Quality of North Britain.

*Non avidius ipsum Alexandrum, quàm Medicum in-
tuebatur Exercitus: pro se Quisq; dextram ejus
amplexi grates habebant, veluti præsenti Deo.
Q. Curt.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for M. Wotton, at the Three Daggers in
Fleetstreet; and Sold by J. Morphew, near Sta-
tioners-Hall.

Price, Two Pence.

Fair Play for One's Life, &c.

United South-Britains,

THE Blessed Union (which I hope will never die) struggled in the Birth with Difficulties almost insuperable. How violent were the Opposers of our Partnership with you, whose Luxuries and Avarice will insatiably prey on the common Stock; 8 or 10 Leaders of the Parties and Projects shall set on the deluded People, to worry the most Honourable Zeal to do Good, to serve and to save their Country! How immense is the Difference of our Manners! The Protection of Life and Property is the first Article of the Compact of Human Societies. Your most Eminent Physicians and Surgeons have been publicly exploded by you, treacherous to the Patients, ignorant of all Diseases and Medicines: the Collegiates have often remonstrated the numerous and the powerful Causes of the Calamities of all the Ranks of the Nation. Are there any Gentlemen of Reason and Honour, able to detect the malignant Disease, and apply the Sovereign Remedy?

But, the Day the most important Article of the Union was to be debated, a Petition of our Apothecaries was read for Permission to practise Physick and Surgery. I had the Honour to be commanded to deliver the Reasons of our Refusal; That we are oblig'd to protect the Physicians and Surgeons Properties, as we must defend our own Estates, and Titles, and Privileges: that, if we betray the most learned and useful Professions, we shall by the Example destroy the Law and the Church; and in the Consequence, our Universities must be abandon'd, and the Esteem and Pursuit of Learning extinguish'd; that the Libertinage will encourage their Trade to increase prodigiously, and at last, starve one another; that Millions of Native and Foreign Empiricks will break in on their Employment, and complete its Destruction.

Strange! (my *United South-Britains*) the Hour of my Arrival to the *British Parliament* presented me the Accomplishment of our Prediction. My Kinsman, who had invited me to his House, observ'd my Disorder from the Fatigues of the tedious Journey, withdrew, and brought his Apothecary. This good old Gentleman, he said, has advis'd our Family these Fifty Years, he has more Patients and Experience than ten Physicians and Surgeons in our Neighbourhood: Treats them from the Beginnings of all Diseases; They are call'd in only in the most Dangerous near their End. I presented him a Fee, as is our Custom to our Lawyers and Physicians. He persisted refusing to touch it. I declar'd most solemnly, I never will, while I live, be advis'd, when the Numbers and Prices of all the Medicines shall only pay the Reward; when I saw, passing your Streets, eight or ten Shops in every one, and the Prentices prattling and playing; no Preparation making, not a Remedy compounded; they are more numerous than the Sick.

I was surpriz'd, when the good old Gentleman embrac'd me with the greatest Affection, when he wept for Joy, that he liv'd to see one of my Quality endow'd with Wisdom to preserve my Life, and the generous publick Spirit, to assert the Safety of the Royal Family, Nobility, Gentr and People. 'Tis only our taking no Fee, seeming to advise for Nothing, gives us the absolute Power in the Houses of the Nobility

lity and Gentry, and makes us able to invade and oppress our Physick and Surgery. It is in our Power, (as you most wisely foresaw) to pay our selves two or three Guineas a Day in the Wealthy, and one in the ordinary Houses, above the real Values of the Remedies, to continue it uninterrupted to the Recovery, and vastly above the Fees of the Physicians and Surgeons, who are call'd in late in the deplorable Cases, have their ten Shillings only every other Visit; when the Life is imagin'd in less Danger, they must often attend without any Reward to prevent the Relapse, to secure the Recovery.

My dear United *Britains*, I cannot express my Grief and Confusion. My first Reflection painted to me almost all the Physicians and Surgeons, treacherous to the Sick, and ignorant of all Diseases, and the just Uses of the Medicines. I importun'd my good Apothecary, who I perceiv'd, desir'd the Redress of these terrible Grievances, to report the Disease and the specifick Remedy. My Servant attended to take our Discourse, to be publish'd in a Sheet, as the Sermons, the cheap Antidote and Preservative of all the Inhabitants of the Island.

N. B. I have heard, that (*Ann. 1639.*) the College reported the most weighty Affair to our most religious and learned K. *Charles I.* in Council, all the Judges commanded to attend. The Attorney-General was directed to revoke your Charter; your Shops were to be adjusted to the Proportion of the City. The Rebellion prevented the Regulation. Your Physicians after the Restoration, publish'd many Learned Discourses on the Subject, they and the Surgeons have often address'd, not for Preferments and Pensions, but the Cure of the Vileness and Deficiencies of the Arts for the publick Service.

S. B. Our Advice and most diligent Attendance of all the Sick in the Families of the Nobility and Gentry, being paid by our Bills, of as many Doses as we please, and at our own Rates, greatly exceed the Sums they are able, or willing to expend, to preserve their Health and Life. The Physicians Fee, (we will suppose the Surgeons are in all Points equally concern'd) is, when superadded to our Load, the most intolerable Burden. It's our Interest to suggest the largest Fees, larger than they desire, to make them odious to the People. This makes them dread the Physicians, 'till the Pains and the Dangers are most violent. Then they request us to choose a Doctor for them. We will prefer none, but we can confide in, who shall justifie and commend all we have done, who shall patiently bear the Scandal of the Death: He is abdicated for ever, we advance another on the next Occasion; we are never turn'd off, but by one of our Prentices setting up the next House, and prevailing on the Stewards and Nurses.

N. B. Then farewell all the sincere and learned Practice of Physick and Surgery. The ambitious or hungry Solicitors of your Favour shall explode the Endeavours of the most generous Patriots of their Country to preserve the Royal Family, the Nobility, &c. and your Trade as well as their own Professions. Why are you on the sudden pale and disturb'd?

S. B. By Heavens! we have carry'd the fatal Jest too far, we are undone. The Peoples Affection, as the Fondness of an indulgent Mother, betrays us to our Ruin. We have our Prentices forc'd upon us to have the Title of Doctors, to practise Physick and Surgery, and the Apothecaries Business. We have this Hundred Years from our Charter, *Ann. 1616*, by two or three Prentices increas'd to an immense Number, filling all the Streets with eight or ten, as you observ'd, and three or four in all the Villages about the City. Our Gentlemen never think, or to no Purpose, for themselves or us. Our excessive Increase must infallibly

compel us to bring them more Medicines in all Diseases whatever, and, from Year to Year, to raise the Prices of the Doses. The Payment grows more and more oppressive, the Physicians and Surgeons must be more fear'd and abhorr'd, and insulted, when they crave to be heard. But why do they not save and rescue us from ten Thousand Empiricks starting up here, and from all Parts of the World, who take the Bread out of our Mouths? The busie or hungry Clergy set up with their secret Cures. An horrible Number of Nurses undertake the Management, with their own Remedies, of all the Fevers, *Small-Pox*, &c. The Quacks of the Advertisements deal with their single Preparations to cure infallibly this, or the other terrible Disease, or pretend it shall cure forty or fifty as surely as one; they make the most dreadful Havock of the Sick and us. How many Pretenders live plentifully by the Sale of *Elixirs*, *Spirits*, *Tinctures*, *Pills* and *Cordials*; the Papers of their Vertues and Uses pedlar'd about from House to House? Then the Gentlemen of Quality, who pretend to top us on the Physicians and Surgeons, beggar us without Mercy; they buy the *Spirits*, *Tinctures*, *Laudanum*, at the first Hand. We must strive to make up our Losses by thrusting more of our Medicines on them, they struggle against us, by those, and many of their own Preparations, and take the Goa-stone, &c. from all the Visitants. And (will you be able to believe it) there are many subtle Projectors of our Company, who have put off their Shops, have contriv'd to destroy me and my Brethren. They invade our Property; We shall not furnish a Sea-Surgeon, our Brother, our Kinsman, or old Acquaintance, they must have their Chests at the Hall, more than they want, certainly dearer; and will you imagine them better than ours, when they are the most competent Judges of the Remedies they use?

N. B. You see the necessary Tendencies of inroaching on one another. Do not the Magistrates know how the Publick suffers by the Invasions of the sacred Boundaries of the Professions and Arts engag'd in the Preservation of Health and Life? You have attempted the Regulations of the Law; the lurking Pochers of the Game are deter'd by the severest Penalties. It is now your turn to appeal, to implore the Protection of the Government. Has not your Company resolv'd to lay its own, and the Publick Distress before the *Parliament*?

S. B. An Apothecary has in Print demonstrated the Necessity of repelling the Empiricks, and of reducing our Numbers. He proposes, That one Half may be oblig'd to serve the other as hired Servants. There are many of my Brethren (when the College has often desir'd us to foresee the Consequences of our endless Multiplication) have in the Hall earnestly recommended our using only Labourers to prepare our Medicines. I know many Surgeons, who lament with us the deadly Confusions and Disorders, and the necessary barbarous Ignorance of the modern Practice from the fear'd Destruction of the College. You know the sovereign Medicine prepar'd by the Royal Martyr, and the Lords of his Council. You have seen the Discourses of Dr. Goddard, Dr. Bates, Dr. Merret, &c. and lately, the *Disensary-Poem*, which remonstrates the Integrity and Learning of the Professions sinking more and more into the vain Presumptions of Arrogance, or the humble Compliance of using only the 30 or 40 vulgar Remedies of the Shops, contriv'd by Divisions into numerous Doses in all sorts of Diseases, to complement our Choice of them, to raise for us out of every Fever, *Small-Pox*, &c. 30 or 40 Guineas; out of the long Cures, 100, or 150. This you see is the only Title and standing Army of our Power, and their slavish Subjection. As there are 3 or 4 Champions of our projecting Parties, there are 8 or 10 Apothecaries gain their 1500, or 2000 Pounds a Year.

Year: We raise about as many Physicians and Surgeons, Bold Britons who stick at nothing. The Court, the Gentlemen of Quality, can never see their own, and the common Calamities, when their Physicians and Surgeons are presented by us to them, pretending to the Learning in vogue, the empty Cyhimara's and Romances of *Hypotheses*, every day chang'd, and as soon out of fashion, the Whimsies of the unseen Motions and Operations of Atoms, nothing to the purpose of curing Diseases, or the Cases of Surgery. And these unfortunate Guessers and Operators are commanded by us, to observe the Instructions we give them, to defy and damn the College and all the generous Attempts to preserve the Publick.

N. B. How many Thousand Crimes form their Character? They must abjure their own Societies and Professions, they must for the Honour of their Preferments, for their Salaries, expose their Patrons and the People to certain Death in all dangerous Diseases, and carefully transmit to Posterity these detestable Accomplishments of their Arts.

S. B. Will you allow, that they have reported almost these hundred Years, the most Learned and publick Spirited of the Society, the most troublesome Disturbers of the Publick, the most factious Reformers; that a Collegiate must be warily observ'd, and prevented, or expell'd from any Post of Publick Service. Shall the Royal College, Learning or Virtue flourish, when their most deadly Enemies insatiate the Gentlemen to fly from them, to assault their best Preservers?

N. B. Is it conceivable, that none of the Gentry shall be able to discover their true Interest, and detect the Impostors?

S. B. When they leave the Care of their Wives, and Sons, and Daughters to the Nurses and Attendants, to us, and our Physicians and Surgeons, all these our mighty Grievances must grow in Stature and Strength. As the innumerable Empiricks, and the lurking Venders of Medicines multiply, we must enlarge the Numbers of Doses, and their Rates; the *Fevers*, and *Small-Pox*, &c. must produce the 20*l.* to 40*l.* 50*l.* the Chronical, the 100*l.* or 200*l.* How can I and many of my Brethren stint the Numbers and Prices, when every Year necessitates us to larger Numbers and Rates? When a large Part of us gain the Dr's Fee out of every Bole, and the Cordial-Draught to wash it down; when 3 or 4 Guineas a Day are gain'd, and 3 Papers of a Powder (worth 2*d.*) shall produce almost the Guinea, must they not turnpale tremble at the Sight of a Physician and Surgeon. dreading we are laying our Taxations more heavily on them? Must they not implore us to keep them out to the latest Exremity, and then bring the Adviser, who must enlarge the Account.

N. B. I see these Gentlemen of the Faculties must stick at nothing; but what Methods can you and your devoted Physicians and Surgeons use to destroy the Physicians, whose generous Disinterest preserves you, with their Society and Profession?

S. B. They shall assault them with the Rage of a Gladiator. Dr. G. has publish'd our Attempts on the Life of two of his Patients, to kill his Reputation with them. The pious Cabal of our Surgeons and Apothecaries, near our Cathedral, hir'd the Nurse to affright and poison a Lady in the *Small-Pox*, with Child, on the same great Design. The Assassination was prevented by her Recovery, when their honest and skilful Management dispatch'd to the Grave a Gentleman of the House, a Party of the Company and Plot.

N. B. I am an Accomplish'd with them, I must take my part of the Guilt and the Punishment, if I do not in the next Parliament, lay the Universal Calamities before the Committee of the State of the Nation. We must, in the first place, protect you from the Numberless, most ignorant and daring Empiricks, from the sly Pedlars of the Remedies. We must then preserve you from being undone by your two or three Prentices in all the Shops. We cannot defend our Life, but by the just Proportions of the Medicines in the various Diseases. We must betray our own, and the Life of all the People, we must abolish the Faculties in your two famous Universities, if we do not restore the Sincerity and Sufficiency of the Profession, the most implor'd in the greatest Distress by Mankind. The Gentlemen then of Great Britain will explode the perfidious Physicians and Surgeons, will detect the ignorance of the most Arrogant, will applaud the most honourable Zeal of the Collegiates, from the Address to K. Charles I. in Council, to the modern Reformers of the most vitious Practice.

S. B. You may please to add, who have been assaulted by our Out-Guards, our Physicians and Surgeons in all the Houses about the Court, but when they presented the Publick Calamities to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen and the Common Council, and Our Company unhappily rejected the Expedient, the *Panacea*, which can only redress the Confusions and Malignity of the modern Practice, which the Committee had resolv'd after long and the most mature Deliberations, the City requested the College to erect its *Dispensaries*. But we cannot live without the great yearly Payments from the Poor and the Wealthy: This gives us our Power, confirm'd more and more by the long and consuming War, to raise to Fame, or starve the Physicians. The Poem describes our Champions assaulting the College, and the greatest Part of the Dispensarians have been forc'd for Bread to revolt to us.

N. B. The imminent Danger of the Invasion will unite us, will rouse our vigilance and Courage, when we reflect, that we must die in all the most safe and secure Diseases, without Hope of Relief in the most intricate and severe.

S. B. All the Professions and Arts, the Serious and the Amusing must be sed and led by the Hand in their Infancy, will conspire in their Evidence, and assist us to make the surest Judgment in the Cause. A young Gentleman buys a Commission, he must be instructed by the Officers, or learn from their Footmen and the Sutlers. The Professors in the Universities do not inform the Students, what Authors give the most certain Observations of Human Nature, of the infinite Diseases, which are expell'd by Nature alone, of the various Medicines and the Seasons of applying them. The Physicians of many Years Experience, with a Generosity almost peculiar to the Profession, were the most candid Patrons of the young Practicers. The young Arrogants now raise themselves by insulting their improv'd Learning, their Observations of the Happy, or ill Success of the various Methods and Medicines in all kinds of Diseases. But they must have one or other to introduce them. Our Apothecaries of the different Designs, oblige them with the suitable Instructions. You must prescribe the common Juleps and Boles, and three or four sorts of Apozemes, from 30 or 40 Medicines, we have confin'd the Practice to. You must make the greatest Pother with them, and Blisters, and Scarifying, and Setons, to amuse the Assistants. The greatest Part in the common safe Distempers will recover. You must pronounce every Escape a mighty Cure, shift off from a dangerous Business, but proclaim in all your Companies, you could have sav'd the Life: If you find them recovering

vering in 2 or 3 days, shew your Care, and damn all the Medicines before prescrib'd. How different was the Practice, when I came first to the City? The Physicians from the Universities, examin'd and applauded by the College (as the Clergy by the Bishop) supported by the old Practisers, visited all the numerous Cases of the meaner People in their Neighbourhood, as the Gentlemen of the Gown open the Causes, and advise in the Purchases of less value. The proportion'd Fees, and the Cheapness of the Medicines, introduc'd them to all the Families. The Success was assur'd by the frequent Converse with the Patrons of the Art, by their Instructions or Consultations in the most Important. We were not then their dangerous Rivals or declar'd Enemies. Our Shops were open to them, to confirm and improve their Skill in the Drugs, to examine their Qualities and Virtues, and Preparations, or to observe the Tryal of the New, or lately improv'd. The frequent endow'd Lectures often conven'd the Collegiates. The Conversation discover'd the never-failing Methods to subdue the Epidemical malignant Fevers, the specifick Medicines in the acute or most obstinate Chronical Diseases. They may now debate their own Distempers, if the Dispensary Poem has truly drawn by the Instructions of the President, the Characters of the *Mirmils*, *Querpoes*, the *Bards*. Will it therefore surprize you, that we frequently foretel in the Chamber, that the Dr. we present to them; will order only this and the other Remedy, and Blisters and Cupping, that the Gentlemen of Quality avow they can see no Difference, that their Apothecaries do as well as the most Arrogant? Shall the General enter the Field to turn the flying Troops; or the Judge, when the Pleadings are ended? Can they ever understand a Disease, when they are brought in by us, when all the natural Powers are ruffled and broken; when the fatal Symptoms are first discover'd by the Attendants?

N. B. How easily are Fevers, as Fires, extinguish'd by timely Care? How easily are almost all Distempers prevented from the most dangerous Symptoms? Has the Royal Family, the Nobility, &c. the Physicians early Conduct? How shall they ever know the Manners of the Invasions of Diseases, their Advances, the Ravages they make of the Natural Strength, when they have lost the ten Thousand Cases of the Patients near them, who must stand in the Front, receive the Shocks of Diseases, and protect the Life of the Royal Family, and the Nobility? When shall their Physicians begin to understand them, when all the Novices in all the Arts, are allow'd their Proportions of Defeats and Blunders, especially in the Practice which wants the experienc'd Patrons Instructions and Cautions?

S. B. When the natural Tendencies to collect and separate the mortify'd Humors (by which only Life can be preserv'd in all Diseases) by the different Evacuations are assisted, directed, or controul'd, if too vehement, the Diseases shall be rendred more benign, the Ferments of the Humours to greater Malignities prevented, and a large Part evacuated the first Days, the Feeble remaining subdu'd by the internal Motion of the Blood. When they are suddenly brought to the unhappy Turn of the Disease, what can we expect from their Observations and Advice only in the Morning, when after the Storm during the Night, all the Symptoms are allay'd? While the Medicines prescrib'd are preparing, they often begin to rage more violently, seize on the Brain, the Breast, the Bowels. The Medicines may be in the Evening destruy'd. The salutary Exclusion of the Humours may be fatally stop'd, or the Evacuation fatally promoted by them.

N. B. I remember you asserted, That the Physicians are confin'd to 30 or 40 vulgar Remedies always ready in the Shop, to be mix'd and divided into the Doses. I suppose, because you are engag'd in the advising and attending your own Patients, and cannot attend to any new, or nice, or difficult Preparation, how can they apply them to the many different Indications of Cure?

S. B. It's now thought unbecoming the Physicians to examine all the Chymical and Galenical Preparations, and select the best of both. We have many Years past, deter'd them from that most necessary Part of their Art. We have therefore, often in the *Court of Requests*, and in the private Families, publish'd their lamentable Ignorance, that if they hazard the Prescription of any but the common Receipts, the Colours, the Scents, the Tastes, the Consistences expose them to the Laughter or Pity of our Prentices, that they must be redrest by us, before they are sent to the Patients. And we may send in what Remedies we please, without the Dread of their Discovery of the Fallacy. You will be inform'd, that 6 Eminent Apothecaries Preparations, now of the most general Use, were condemn'd in our Hall, vilely sophosticated, wanting every dearest Ingredient; that 3 or 4 Apothecaries supply'd the Army in *Ireland* with the most infamous Drugs, confest by the Druggist; that our Gentry often debate, whose Apothecary has the best Things; but our Physicians never distinguish, if the *Bole*, or *Julep*, or *Powder*, or *Pill* which are mixt by their Order, of 8, for 10 Preparations, are compounded of the best or the worst Ingredients, cannot be assur'd, if the *Bark*, the *Laudanum*, the *Spirits* or *Tinctures* are good; whether the Ignorance of the Disease, or the horrible Remedy prevented the Cure. The College lately voted the Necessity of composing a new *Dispensatory*, rejecting the worst Preparations, and substituting the most rational and efficacious, which the improv'd experimental Philosophy in all the other Parts of *Europe* has discover'd, but the modern Learning is of no Use to them and the People: Disease and Medicines can only be known by the most diligent Observations and Experiences.

N. B. Are not the Gentry able to detect the Imposture?

S. B. They have many Years suspected it; In almost all Diseases, fly for Help to the experienc'd Preparations of their Families communicated to them, before our Physick and Surgery were corrupted and debas'd. But when we and the Artists combine to disguise the Fraud, how easily will the Amusement prevent the Conviction? If the *Fevers* are attempted to be cur'd by *Acids*, the Chymical Corrosives are us'd, whose Force the Metals cannot resist; they operate with too much Violence, precipitate and colliquate the Blood. If by *Alkalies*, what Success will you hope, unless the Constitution can expel the easie Disorder, when 1000 Doses may be taken without any sort of Operation; and the *Bexoar* is demonstrated by the best Physicians of the Age, and many late Experiments to be indissoluble, which the most corrosive Chymical Spirits cannot penetrate. Not many Years past, 5 Medicines only pretended to conquer all Diseases whatever, with our Cordials, design'd only to fill the vacancies.

N. B. What are the Remedies we want?

S. B. You know the *Bark* is a powerful Specifick in all intermitting Fevers, which mixt with the Blood subdues its effervescence, but it must be fatal, when the Humours are malignant and detain'd by it. The College therefore in the *Poem* complains, That the Art is dwindled into the meer Craft of deceiving the Sick with few vulgar Compositions; but it wants the generous Specificks or Alteratives, that the great Enquiries or the Recovery of them, have been lately expell'd the Practice,

Dr. P.

Dr. P. ——— has in his Comments, explain'd the Design of the College in that Publication, as my Lord Cook the Tenures of *Littleton*. Common Sence, as well as the Philosophy of Physick will inform us, the morbid Humours are not always prepared to be evacuated by Sweat, by Urine, by the Bowels, that the vicious Qualities of the Blood must be reduc'd and dispos'd for the Evacuation, by the Medicines of the contrary Qualities. The alteration of the Blood inflam'd, extremely Vicious, fermenting with Violence, and preventing the collection and expulsion of the morbid Matter, or acid or watery, or roapy, or the Crasis broken, and the necessary Ferment too languid, ought to be the first Intention and Design of the Physician. Then he must warily observe the Progress of the Natural Efforts, and distinguish which of the different Evacuations are chosen in the various Constitutions, then assist and promote, and direct the Exclusion, or moderate or repell the precipitate or excessive Evacuations.

N. B. This is the most Sovereign Present Mankind can receive, if the Health and Life of all the Inhabitants, are of any value to themselves or the Publick; oblige me with a short Report of it.

S. B. The Comments Publish and Demonstrate the 4 certain Principles or constituent Parts of all Vegetables and Animals, which variously alter'd and mixt produce the Healthy and Diseas'd Qualities of the Blood: The happy Application and Union of the Qualities of the Medicines cannot fail to restore the Natural and Healthy Crasis. They present us the abundant Plenty of the Degrees of those Qualities mixt and compounded in the vast varieties of their Vertues, the Magazine of Medicine, Providence has provided to prevent and subdue all Diseases. Chymistry has unfortunately attempted to improve them by separating and destroying the Divine Compositions. The separated Principles cannot unite with the Blood. act on it with the most vehement Impressions, are only of the noblest use in the rare Cases, when the Salutary Violence is demanded, as the *Burnings* and *Incisions* of *Surgery*, are most necessary to inflame the languid Spirits and Blood, but they dissipate and waste, with themselves flying off, the most active Spirits of the Blood and the Nerves. They are (the *Vinous* and *Volatile Spirits*, the *Oyls*) most necessary to enforce the Evacuations of Sweats and Perspiration, to blow up the Vital Fire when almost extinguish'd, or (the *Acid Spirits*, the *fixt Salts*) to cool and repress the inflam'd Oyl of the mixture of the Blood. But how despicable is the Penury of Chymistry compar'd with the Riches and Magnificence of Nature. All the *Vinous*, and *Volatile* and *Acid Spirits* are but three Medicines differing only in the Degrees of one Quality. The *unfermented Oyls* are only discriminated by the being more or less diluted. All the *fixt Salts* are only varied by the Circumstances of their Fusion. The *Magilleries* and *Calcinations* are a deed unactive Earth, when you except the Preparations of the Minerals. The greater part of the Additions of the crafty *Arabians* to the most rational Pharmacy are the most absurd Medicines in the World. Most of the *Conserve*s and *Syrups* pretend only to prevent the trouble of preparing the most generous Remedies, the *Extracts*, *Infusions* and *Decoctions*, but are the most oppressive in the Stomach, the most corrosive corrupters of the Blood. The largest Part of their Compositions is infamous from the horrible tumults of the contrary Qualities of 50, 100 Ingredients in one, controuling and destroying one another's Efficacies.

N. B. The most Self-evident and serious Truths! The noble Specifick, the *Bark*, must be taken without Addition, Powder'd, or, infus'd or decocted, or extract'd, shall it be debas'd by *Sugar* to a *Conserve* or *Syrup*; or *Distill'd* to a *Simple rappid Water*, or to a *Brandy Spirit* from a *fermented Liquor*?

Liquor? Shall the stronger Fire force over the *stinking Oyl*? The wonderful Composition of its Principles is vitiated or wanting, or corrupted by their brutish Cookeries of the *ador'd Specifick*. Surgery will use the Oyls, or the Subtilizations of them by Fermentation in the Vinous Spirits on the rare Occasions, but the Fomentations, and all the other Topical confess their powerful Operations from the preserv'd entire Qualities of the Vegetables. How ridiculous are the Pursuits of Chymistry, design'd only for surprize and the Pleasures of Amusement? How vain the Ambition to out-do by our Artifices the inimitable Master-pieces of Nature? How unhappy are the Great and Noble, poor in their Confinement to the enjoyment of the Trifles they reserve to themselves?

S. B. The Alterative Specificks are the Medicines, which in all the Ages past, restor'd the most Difficult Diseases to Health, by correcting the vicious Qualities of the Blood, by uniting with it and supplying the Principles defective in the respective Disorders. The innumerable Fevers, Diseases of the Brain, Breast, Bowels, the Viscera, the Dropsie, Jaundice, Gout, the Scorbutical Colliquations, the Disorders of the Sex can only be cur'd by the frequent use of their Alteratives in the proportioned Quantities, as the Waters, to dilute with the Efficacy of their Minerals. The Comments range them under the obvious Classes of their Qualities and Vertues, 1. The *Aromaticks*, the Acrid, Spicy or Cordial, the Restorers of the Oyl and internal Motion of the Blood, 2. The *Astringent*, 3. the Bitter, 4. the Acid, 5. the Sweet, 6. The Watery. But the Wisdom and Powers of Nature are boundless. The *Aromaticks* are more Acrid, or attemperated by the Astringent, or Bitter, or Acid, or Sweet or Watery Qualities. every other Class regales us with the same large Abundance and Variety.

N. B. You observ'd, That the more rare Indications demanded Bleeding, the Vomits, Purgers, Sweaters, the Chymical Spirits, and the Vinous Waters, to revive the Vital Flame. I have heard, a Sect of Physicians has cur'd all Diseases by the Alteratives you have describ'd convey'd into the Stomach and Blood, with the Nourishment of our Foods, and the three last are avow'd to be restorative by Nourishment, and Medical, and Correctors of the Vicious Humours. Will not the Patients fear, that the dead distill'd Waters of the Fruits and Herbs, will turn their Blood into a Dropsie, that the fermented Spirit of the Grape, of all the Vegetables will evaporate and consume the more active Parts of the Blood, the Spirits, and therefore every Hour raise the craving a new supply, till the Appetite and Digestion are destroy'd to a Dropsie or Consumption? Will they command their Cooks to prepare the Flesh with Sugar, or Distill it to a Simple or Compound Water? Will they feed on the Drops of the Oyl extracted from it?

S. B. Not more than 3 or 4 Centuries are past, since the Arabian invented the Distillations. EUROPE long preserv'd the use of the Specifick Alteratives. the collusions of the last Age made the fatal Deluge of the Simple and Compound Waters. The Ease and Profit of the Apothecaries have abdicated the vast Numbers of them. Milk-Water and of Black-Cherries, and 3 or 4 of the Compound are only retain'd in service. The Physicians are indifferent which of them make the Julep for the Head, Breast, or Stomach, &c. The Evidences of the Comments are irresistible, from the attestations of all the most successful Practicers of this Age, who avow they only divert their Patients with the temperate Juleps, as Sweet-meats, and from the Philosophy of all the kinds of Distillation, which can bring over no one Part of the great Natural Composition from any of the Specifick Vegetables

but the *Aromatick*, and from them only the *Oyl* separated from the other Principles. If there are 50 Plants in the Compound Water, and 25 *Aromatick*; you have 25 *Oyls* with the smatch only of the Qualities of the Plant: Every *Oyl* must vehemently inflame, raise the Nausea's and Flatulencies, and the Tempests of Wind they are pretended to break. The good Sense therefore of our Gentlemen and Porters prefer the *Simple Spirit*, or the Infusions *Rassasia* and *Usquebaugh* before them, and the surest Success in all the windy and Phlegmatick Colicks supports their Judgment. Shall our Arrogant Physicians and Surgeons be able to appoint none of the Appropriate Remedies, but these most offensive Punches, in all the Hours of all the Diseases of all the Constitutions and Ages? The Appropriate Alteratives, either the Watery *Oyl*, or the Watery Sweet, or the Sweet Acids, or the Acid bitter in the most agreeable Animal Liquor lately presented from the most efficacious Plants of the Field, and the more agreeable Liquors, whose *Oyls* are attemperated by the other Principles, shall abate every Hour the deputyary Motion of the Blood in all the inflammatory Diseases, reject a part of the Recrements, every Hour, by the Pores, by Urine or the Bowels, and gradually reduce the ferment to the Natural Temper, and make the just *Crisis* by Sweats, and the other Evacuations or the Cutaneous or Glandular Separations. When we shall have this and a thousand other Reformation, the Physicians and Surgeons oblig'd to learn, and prescribe the most useful Medicines, the Apothecaries carefully preparing the Remedy adapted to the Circumstances of each Case and Constitution: The People will generously reward our Industry, we shall not insult and destroy the Professions to make our Reprizals on them, because Millions of Empiricks, the daring Privateers and Pirates on our Trade, invade and plunder us.

My dear United Britains,

I assur'd my good old Gentleman at parting, that War shall be proclaim'd against the wicked Empiricks, that their Defeat shall give the first Triumph to *Great Britain*. Tho' they are as numerous as the *French* in *Flandess*, our Gentlemen of Honour and Vertue, (if every one cares only for himself) will bravely attack their Intrenchments, when their Courage shall be inflam'd, after reading the Memoirs of the English Practice, presented to me by all the Physicians and Surgeons of Integrity. When the *Arabian Chymistry* had presented to *Europe* the admirable *vinous* and *volatile Spirits*, and the *Oyls*, the *acid Spirits*, and the *fixt Salts*, which justly apply'd, exert the almost miraculous Powers; the first reviving the almost dead vital Flame, the other instantly extinguishing the Fire of the Blood in the Dose of few Drops and Grains: Millions of *Empiricks* pester'd *Italy*, *France*, *Germany*: Every one pretended to his own Discovery and laborious Preparation of a supernatural Remedy, each Drop demanded the Peice of Gold, the Reward of its Title and Atchievements: An *Army* of *Empiricks*, as the old *Saxons*, invaded our Island. The Princes and Nobility, (who is secure from the Enchantments of the Craft of Physick?) admir'd and applauded them, decry'd all the Learning, and Observations, and Medicines of the Practisers refusing to rely on them in all the Diseases of Mankind. The fiery Quackery triumph'd, 'till the Cheapness of their little Doses was detected, were forc'd to load the Sick with the Proportions of other Medicines, which cou'd support their Gain. The Manufactures flourish'd in all Parts: The Officers licens'd the *Strolers* of *Plays*; the *Tumblers*, the *Monsters* and *Elephants*, and *Tigers*, and *Bears*: They first granted their Licenses to the *Stages*, to delude, and cheat, and destroy the People.

Our

Our glorious Patron of Learning, K. Henry VIII. the Lords and Commons, (*Ann. Dom. 1524.*) Establish'd, by Law, the College, and the Surgeons Company, avow in the Act, that they dread the most publick Calamities impending on the Nation, if they expose the Life of the Subjects to Undertakers, not examin'd whether they understand the innumerable Diseases, and the cautious Use of the Medicines. Secondly, If the Advisers receive their Reward from their Arbitrary Numbers and Rates of the Doses, obtruded on all Disorders whatsoever. Wou'd to God, Committees of the Nobility, Gentry, and Clergy, were appointed to sit, till they had collected all the Calamities, which the Sick from the Numbers of Doses in all the Diseases and Constitutions must suffer. In that and the following Reigns, the *Kings in Council*, the *Lord Chamberlain*, the *Judges*, frequently animated the College, to the most vigilant Detection of the *Empiricks*, often commanded the *Lord Mayor*, the *Justices*, to assist the *Censors* in their Apprehension and Punishment. The Society is compos'd of the Graduates from our famous Universities, which can only give the Languages, the Philosophy, the Rudiments of the Art, but must be advanc'd to the greatest Perfection in the most populous City, which presents Millions of Cases, the most diligent Attendance, the Reports to one another of the salutary or unhappy Success of the most different Methods and Medicines. The Nobility and Gentry meet in the two Houses of Parliament to debate *de arduis Regni Negotiis*, the Physicians mutually impart and receive in the endow'd Lectures, and their Conferences, their Observations of the most difficult Diseases, the Triumphs of the Specifick Remedies. There is nothing can baffle the most wise Establishment of the College, but the Arrogance of the Physician, who assumes to himself, as our *Prophets*, the whole Art of raising his Patients, as from the Grave, has monopoliz'd the Science of all things past, present, and to come, affirms all Societies are useless. But in the Reign of K. James I. (*Ann Dom 1616.*) all the legal Establishments were overturn'd by the *Grants* bought of the Courtiers, to invade all the Professions and Arts. Then 114 Apothecaries obtain a *Charter* to deal only in Medicines. The *Waters*, *Spirits*, *Tinctures*, had been sold by the *Distillers*. The *Confections*, *Powders*, *Pills*, *Oyntments*, *Plaisters*, by the *Grocers*, who sold the *Spices*, *Fruits* and *Drugs*, and the Medicines in the large Quantities to the Families, who had learn'd the Mixtures of the Waters, and the Divisions of the others into Doses from their Physicians Instructions.

My dear *Britains*. I assure you, Providence can never fail in the abundant Provision of all things necessary to support Life. Have the People the Property, and the just Right and Demand of our Care of the Plenty of Bread and the other Foods? The most sovereign Medicines are equally the easie Purchase of the Poor, or the Charity of the Wealthy. I appeal to your Experience of the Medicines prepar'd in the Houses; of the Quantities bought of the Apothecary, Chymist, Drug-gift, or the Compositions imported by the Merchants, of our Hospitals, where many thousand Patients are yearly medicin'd at the Expence of a Nobleman's Family. But the Physician's Fee is more affrighting than the Pain or Fear of Death. But our *Kings*, the *Ministers of State*, the *Officers of the Fleet and Army*, the *Judges*, the *Clergy*, have their Fees from the proportion'd Taxations of all the Conditions; and the *Nobility and Gentry*, receive the little Payments of the *Cottages* of their *Mannors*. The Fees of the *Nobility and Gentry* can have no Bounds, but all the Populace cheerfully presented their Gratuities proportion'd to their Circumstances, but with the inestimable Presents of the innumerable Diseases, which daily increase the Treasure of the Physicians Knowledge. The Nobility,

lity, &c. The Merchants, &c. then gave their Physicians their proportion'd Salaries. The Physicians then near their Houses, (warranted by their learned Education, and the Examination and Applause of the College) were tortur'd by their greatest Interest to subdue the Disease in its Invasion, abate the Malignity of the Fevers, and often overcome them in 3 or 4 Days, to prevent the necessary Attendance of the Mornings and Evenings of the tedious Course. Their Interest compell'd them to communicate the cautious Use of the most excellent Medicines in the frequent safe incidental Diseases of the Families. The vitious sophisticated Medicines were prevented or expell'd from the Chambers. Will you be surpriz'd, when I affirm, that the Physicians advising all the Sick, and the numerous Distempers near them, shall in few Years acquire a Science ten thousand times more estimable than the Moderns can presume? They observ'd all the Acute and Chronical Diseases, as the Gardner his Plants rising out of the Earth; and, as a Pilot at the Helm, had no Opposition from any separate or contrary Interest, and were in all the Difficulties assisted by the Council of the most generous Patrons, who bequeathed the *Arcana* of the Diseases and Remedies their Predecessors had left them. Will it be objected, we pursue our Luxuries and our Avarice beyond all the Universe, but then in the intervals, we are the bravest, and wisest, and most publick' Spirited, outdo all in Improvements of Wit, and Pleasures, and Manufactures: Our Physicians and Surgeons, (tho' in the great Assemblies we despise and abhor them) are imagin'd from their imprudent Prattle in the Publick Houses the greatest Artists of *Europe*. We have often (my dear United *Britains*) fought for Plunder on the Borders; here I desire you, as the Princes of old contested the Discoveries the most useful and Royal. Our Physicians demonstrate, that the Philosophy of Nature has but lately advanc'd Northward, has been insulted in its Progress by the fierce Disputes of imaginary and impertinent Notions, by the Hypotheses of Principles and Corpuscles above the Reach of their Senses and Understanding. Physick, which claims the Honours and Prerogatives from employing the Philosophy of all Nature to the Divine End of preserving Health and Life, was the Pursuit of all the Princes, Nobility, Philosophers, after the first Affright of Diseases. They collected all the Observations of the Powers of all the Natural Causes and Energies, invading or protecting Mankind. *Hippocrates* and *Galen*, &c. collected all the fundamental, infallible, universally receiv'd Laws of Physick, diversify'd, as the *Governments*, by the various Climates, and Manners, and Diet. The Establishment of the Royal College, design'd the Detection of the Diseases from our Climate, Air, Manners, and Diet, the Adjustment to them of the Methods of Cure, and the Qualities of the Medicines approv'd by the numerous Ages. The barbarous Irruption of Empiricism, as of the *Goths* and *Vandals*, has broken almost all the Attempts. Dr. *Sydenham* reviv'd the vast Enterprize, by the Care of all the Sick in his Province, comparing the Impressions of all the Diseases, the Efforts and Tendencies of Nature, (the first and most powerful, and most solicitous Agent in all the Diseases) where its Symptoms promise and operate the never-failing Recovery, where it craves to be assisted, directed or moderated, or oppos'd. History gives the surest Instructions to all the Governments in Peace and War. The Conduct of Diseases, the Uses of almost all the Parts of the Universe to prevent or conquer them, are to be address'd to the peculiar Constitutions of the distant Nations from the great Magazines of their Success. But we must imitate the Ancients in their Sincerity and Industry. Our Physicians had the little, but mighty and most necessary Artifice almost peculiar to them.

themselves; had the proportion'd Fee in the Morning, but to prevent the mortal Suspicions, assum'd the frequent Visits most necessary in the most acute and impending Dangers. How often did they preserve the Patients, and enrich their Knowledge by the hourly Views of Apoplexies, profuse Vomiting, Purging, Bleeding, when they remarkt the Operations of the Medicines, directed more powerful, or more feeble, when they saw the Approaches of new and contrary Symptoms? I have been assur'd by my Physicians of Honour and Virtue, that the first Degrees of all Diseases, which can affect Mankind, are safe, the appearing fierce and painful Symptoms often ensure the Life, the Efforts of Nature directed, not repell'd and destroy'd, but the advanc'd Degrees of all the Distempers are as fatal as the Pestilence. Our Physicians then could hear or see the first Signals of Danger. They did not in the first Moments decree the Methods of Bleeding, Vomiting, Purging, the 8 or 10 sweating Doses for the succeeding 24 Hours. But they warily observ'd the Pulse, the Heat, the natural Evacuations by the Pores, Urine, or the Bowels; the next View demonstrated the Blood now depurating it self, the Salutary Evacuation begun, or the continued Evacuation rejecting the morbid Humors, abating the Fury of the Disease, and promising the Victory. The other Artifice produces its wonderful Effects. The different Conditions gave the half Fee in the Chronical Diseases at the Physicians House. They did not advise the poor Gentlemen at the Tipling-Houses, without the Informations of the Urine, an Hour before a Part of the Blood, and the surest Messenger from it, examin'd with the other Evidences.

Shall we then, my dear *South Britains*, conclude with the Gentlemen of Quality and the Remonstrance of the College in the *Poem*, that the Modern Physick is a Dangerous Craft, and put it down, as the *Royal-Oak-Lottery*, or restore it to its Integrity and Sufficiency. The Disease is known, and the Remedy most obvious, the excessive disproportion'd increase of the Apothecaries, and the Oppressive Invasion of their Property by the infinite Empirics. In all the wise Government in *Europe* they are prevented from their multiplication pernicious to themselves and the Profession and People. The 114 in the *Charter* (*An. 1616.*) increas'd by the 2 or 3 Prentices in every shop, had fill'd all the streets of the City and the Villages about it. In their Distress from the Incroachments of the Quacks and themselves, the Court-Physicians, and a small part then of the Collegiates propos'd to go snacks with them, taking the half of the 20 or 30, or 40*l.* from all the Fevers and the Small-Pox, &c. the most easie and secure, as the most perplex'd and hazardous, and 100 or 200*l.* in the long Disorders. How can it be? But what cannot the combination of 2 Artists atchieve? The vulgar Medicines are only to be us'd; the Cordials, Sweaters, Sleepers, &c. Instead of their Mixtures and Divisions in the Family from the then known and cheap Quantities, all must be parted by the Apothecary into little Doses. They are disguis'd from their Knowledge by contriv'd Pompous Names, in the Latin Prescription. Every Dose must be pretended to be a rare and pretious thing, all the Boles and Powders avow'd to be compounded with *Bezoar*, tho' the ten thousandth Part is not imported, and all the Juleps in all Disorders must be enrich'd with *Perle*, inferior to many of the most plentiful *Alkalies*. That the Prescript may swell to the admired Bulk and Grandeur, the common Medicines, which are each perfect and complete for the respective Intentions, must be jumbled together 20 or 40 in each Dose, whose Ingredients may make 300 or 400 Drugs in each *Medicine*. You see My dear *South Britains*, That the first Great Law of Nature is violated, that,

as the *Bark*, its Sovereign Medicines in all the other Afflictions shall not be affronted and disturbed by the absurd additions, which certainly make the benign Distempers most fatal, and the dangerous most deadly. The Physicians and Surgeons then confest, that they kill'd the Patients and their Arts and Societies, but they would pass their Time, they had the greater Fee for the Morning Visit only, they had the enjoyment of good Company. The Apothecaries had the care of the Symptoms of the Evening and Night, the Medicines must be taken at the appointed Hours, or new directed by them, or from their Report of the greater or new Distress to the Physician. The Conspirators generously bestow'd the meaner Patients on the Apothecaries, and assum'd the Grandeur of treating only the Diseases of Quality and Wealth. But when the terrible Payments of the Bill made the Fees insupportable, the Houses were compell'd to use the Apothecaries in all Cases, till the Life is despair'd of, who then appoint the most choice Physician. Is it not inevitable, that the Men of the Character of the *Mir-mills*, *Querpo's*, and the *Bards*, shall attest that there is no Omission or Commission in the Method of Cure the Patient has been under, that they communicate their Knowledge and all their Medicines? They shall be discarded if they abate the number of the Doses of the now 30 vulgar Medicines of the Shop, if they presume to restore the Appropriate Specificks, which must govern the Cure of Diseases. It is not impossible (my *BRITAINS*) to find out the Redress of your Calamities; Your Ancestors have reserv'd many of the infallible Medicines long since abdicated, and they have bequeathed to you their care of the Publick, and their Wisdom to preserve it. Their first care was to support the Fidelity, and Industry, to improve the Science of the young Physicians, warrant to the People, as the Judges of the Circuits, as the Coins and Measures. The Charters preclude the Hospitals from usurping the Diseases from the Physicians and Surgeons care. They are commanded to receive only the maim'd and wounded Seamen and Soldiers, or the Casualties of the City: They foresaw the Dangers of the Disease'd from the rude conveyance to them: from the stench of the Rooms, by the excessive Numbers, and the Scents of Dressings: from the Sleep broken, by the Groans of the Pain'd and Departing, and the clamorous Attendance: from the gross Diet as in the Houses of Labour: from the use of the vulgar Remedies only, and the suspected cruel Refusal of the just Proportions: from the rare and confus'd Advices of the Physicians and Surgeons. The Clergy, who in the Spittal Sermons, report the Restrictions of their Charity to the wounded and maim'd, will revive in the Citizens the Ancient Usage, when the Poor were saved by the hourly care of their Physicians and Surgeons, observing the tendency of each Disease, and the Powers of the Remedies, with the affectionate Attendance of the Houses, the undisturbed Repose in the Air not corrupted, the Diet adjusted to all the Constitutions, and the steady use of the Specifick Medicines. This Charity will introduce the Rewards given to the Physicians and Surgeons in all the Cities of *Europe*, with the Assurance, that this Method only can raise Physick and Surgery to the greatest Perfection, and the Applauses of the Calamitous near them reliev'd by their Bounty. The Universities and the Clergy will animate your Zeal to protect the Professions establish'd by Law. The College has in the *Poem* humbly propos'd, That the weighty Affair may be examin'd and judg'd by *Visitors*, who will command the surrender of the Physicians and Surgeons, and Apothecaries Charters, that Statutes shall be adjusted, which shall not be broken by their mutual rage and the abhorr'd Apostasies of their Members. We may fix the necessary Boundaries,

Boundaries from the Laws the Eastern Emperours and Ministers of State Religiously observe, who must, every Year, hear an Hour one of all the Professions and Trades. In the mean time, the Physicians and Surgeons must most industriously discover the innumerable Circumstances of all the Diseases, must examine the Qualities, and Vertues, and Preparations of all the Medicines. Then the Government will view with Pleasure, when it shall restore the Societies, (as when the Universe was form'd from nothing,) the Beauty, and Goodness, and Harmony of the Parts. The Harangue on *St. Luke's Day*, will entertain the Audience, that we have at last begun to apply the Sacred Truths, the Observations of many Ages, collected by the famous Greek and Latin Authors, to the British Diseases, whose Language and most useful Philosophy has not been understood by our most eminent Practisers. Will the Orator be able to persuade, that in *England*, the Advice for Nothing had undone the Poor in every Sickness by the Sovereign Medicines, ten times cheaper than their Food: that it rais'd the Apothecaries and the Empiricks on the Ruin of Physick and Surgery, who are elevated and sunk by the Apothecaries, and must therefore, with the most infamous Treachery, assault and destroy one the other, and their Professions: That the Physicians and Surgeons near the Court, had never seen the Rise and Progress of any Disease, had tamper'd only with the common Receipts of 30 vulgar Remedies, almost always fatal to the Royal Family, the Nobility, and Millions of the People? How will they be surpriz'd, that an hundred Years had past, during the Sales of Patents and Charters, and the Rebellion, and, after the Restoration, and the more pernicious Civil-War of our Follies and Vices, before the Collegiates could convince the Nation, that the Right and Property in the Plenty of all the Remedies, and the Protection of their Life, can only be restor'd by the Defence of the Apothecaries against the Deluge of the Native and the Foreign Empiricks, and the Regulation of the Number of their Shops?

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